



Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook March 28 – April 3, 2019

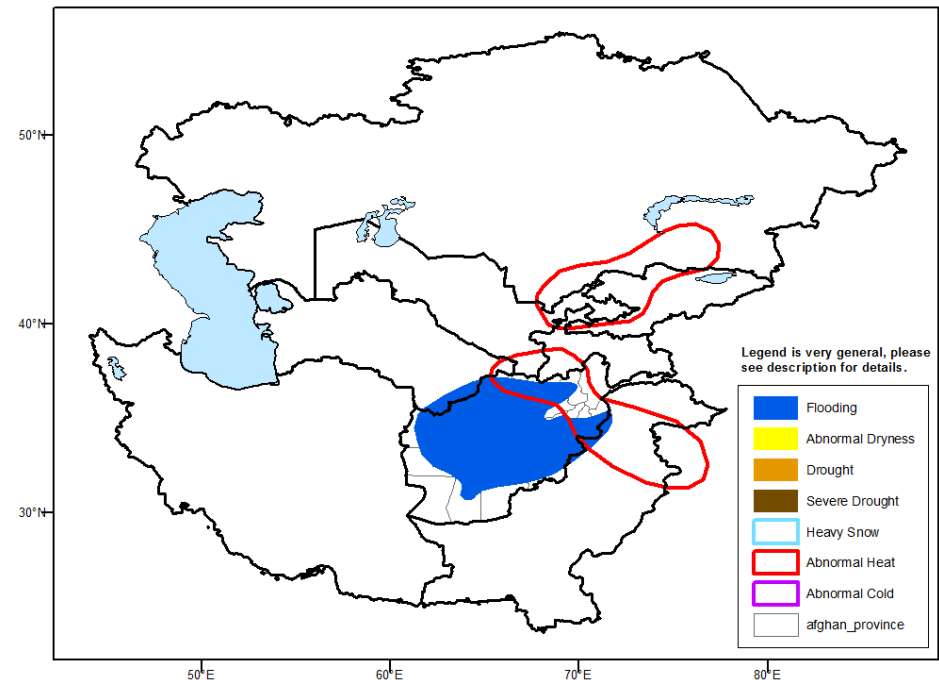
Temperatures:

Temperatures were above normal during the fourth week of March across much of Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Kyrgyzstan. Mean maximum temperature anomalies were as much as 8-12°C above average. Temperatures remained near to, or a few degrees cooler than, normal in Turkmenistan, Afghanistan, and Pakistan. The GFS model indicates that above-normal temperatures will be prevalent during the coming week. The largest positive anomalies (8-12+°C) are expected to be situated over areas of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and northeastern Afghanistan where an abnormal heat hazard is posted. Most of the region will observe above-freezing temperatures and significant melting.

Precipitation:

A large swath of the region remained wet during the past week. Iran, Turkmenistan, southern Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Tajikistan and Pakistan received widespread rain. The heaviest totals (25-50mm or more) occurred in northern Iran, Turkmenistan, and localized parts of Afghanistan. Flooding was reported in Golestan, Mazandaran, and Fars provinces of Iran as well as many parts of Afghanistan. Kazakhstan remained mostly dry during March's fourth week. Frequent precipitation has occurred across Afghanistan since early January resulting in widespread moisture surpluses and above-normal snow water equivalent at higher elevations. However, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and northeast Afghanistan exhibit seasonal moisture deficits.

The stormy weather pattern will persist into early April. Conditions in Iran, Afghanistan, and Tajikistan are forecast to remain rainy with snow in the highest elevations. Total precipitation will likely exceed 25mm liquid equivalent in these areas. Additional rain on top of a heavy melting snowpack and already high rivers is likely to result in flooding over many areas of Afghanistan. Lighter precipitation is forecast in central Kazakhstan.



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.

Questions or comments about this product may be directed to Wassila.Thiaw@noaa.gov or 1-301-683-3424.